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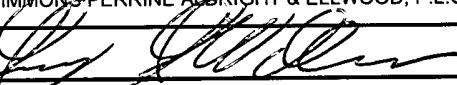
TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	10/708,323	
	Filing Date	February 24, 2004	
	First Named Inventor	Karl W. Nolin	
	Art Unit	3651	
	Examiner Name	J. Bidwell	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	31	Attorney Docket Number	04N1672

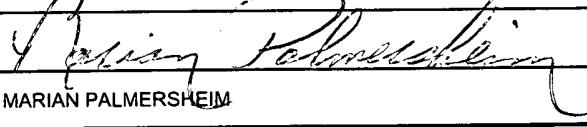
ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):	
Remarks			

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	SIMMONS-PERRINE ALBRIGHT & ELLWOOD, P.L.C.		
Signature			
Printed name	GREGORY G. WILLIAMS		
Date	JANUARY 10, 2005	Reg. No.	31,681

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature			
Typed or printed name	MARIAN PALMERSHEIM	Date	JANUARY 10, 2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Karl W. Nolin Group Art Unit No. 3651

Application No. 10/708,323 Examiner: Unknown

Filed: February 24, 2004

For: FLOW-RETARDING SPOUT AND METHOD FOR DELIVERING DRY
BULK FREE-FLOWING MATERIAL TO A LOWER LOCATION

January/0, 2005

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant is aware of the following references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08B. The Applicant herein believes these documents may be material to the examination of this application and with respect to which there may be a duty of disclosure.

Other Prior Art

1. Page from catalog of Schlagel, Inc., Cambridge, MN, showing Spouting & Accessories, and two web pages showing company contact information, as well as a page showing spouting and accessories.

2. Two pages from catalog of Willis Distributing, Benton, IL showing Square Spouting W/Removable Lid, page 135, and Round Spouting Plain Ends, page 133, and two web pages showing their location.
3. One page of catalog of Honeyville Metal Works, Topeka, IN, showing Welded-Honeyville Pipe and Angle Flange Rigs and three web pages of honeyvillemetal.com.
4. Catalog page of Sidney Manufacturing Company, Sidney, Ohio, as well as a web page for Sidney.
5. One page from a catalog of Sudenga Industries, George, IN, as well as four web pages showing Sudenga Industries.
6. One page of Catalog No. 30.215 (Rev. 4/02) of Thermo Ramsey of Minneapolis, MN.
7. A three-page brochure entitled “Accurate Feeding of Dry Bulk Materials” of Thermo Ramsey, Minneapolis, MN.
8. Pages 3 and 14, as well as cover page of the 2004 Catalog of Nolin Milling, Inc. showing Plain End Spouting, as well as Square and Rectangular Spouting.

This Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been completed or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a) exists, nor shall the submission of any document or the disclosure of any other information in connection herewith be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or as an admission against interest in any manner.

The above-listed references are, in the belief and opinion of the undersigned, the closest art of which the Applicant is aware as of this date, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this document be considered and made of record in the above-identified application.

It is believed that this disclosure complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedures §609. If for some reason the Examiner considers otherwise, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be called so that any deficiencies can be remedied.

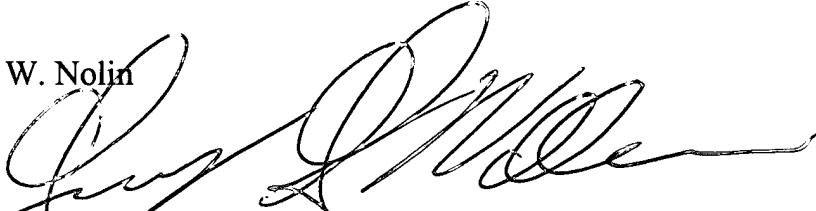
Some of the documents may have markings thereon. No significance is meant to the attached markings.

These documents are not necessarily analogous art.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate consideration of the cited references by returning a copy of the attached form PTO/SB/08B with initials or other appropriate marks.

Respectfully submitted,

Karl W. Nolin

BY: 

Gregory G. Williams, Reg. No. 31,681

SIMMONS, PERRINE, ALBRIGHT & ELLWOOD, P.L.C.

Third Floor Tower Place

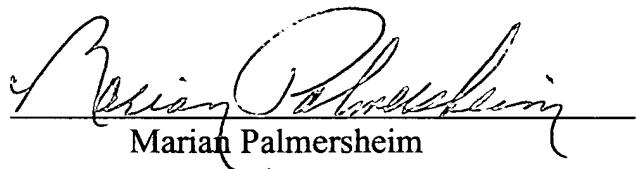
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Marian Palmersheim

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/708,323
Filing Date	FEBRUARY 24, 2004
First Named Inventor	KARL W. NOLIN
Art Unit	3651
Examiner Name	UNKNOWN AT PRESENT
Attorney Docket Number	04N1672

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Page from catalog of Schlagel, Inc., Cambridge, MN, showing Spouting & Accessories, and two web pages showing company contact information and spouting and accessories.	
		Two pages from catalog of Willis Distributing, Benton, IL showing Square Spouting W/Removable Lid, page 135, and Round Spouting Plain Ends, page 133 and two web pages.	
		One page of catalog of Honeyville Metal Works, Topeka, IN, showing Welded-Honeyville Pipe and Angle Flange Rigs and three web pages of honeyvillemetal.com.	
		Catalog page of Sidney Manufacturing Company, Sidney, Ohio, as well as a web page for Sidney.	
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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